

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A locking apparatus for cookware with two opposing surfaces comprising:
a stationary sleeve with a handle positioned at the end;
a stationary pin with a positioning collar;
a semi-circular collar accommodating a rotation limiting latch pin and shoulder stop wherein said semi-circular collar is interlocked with said stationary pin;
a round shaft accommodating lateral movement limiting rings;
wherein said shaft is inserted through said stationary sleeve; and
wherein said stationary sleeve is attached to one opposing cookware surface.
2. A locking apparatus of claim 1 wherein the handle is further used to lift one opposing cookware surface away from the other opposing cookware surface.
3. A locking apparatus of claim 1 wherein said semi-circular collar is a circular collar.
4. A locking apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a return spring.
5. A locking apparatus of claim 1 wherein said a semi-circular collar is comprised of circular collar accommodating a rotation limiting latch pin and two shoulder stops, wherein one of said shoulder stop limits movement of said shaft in the counter-clockwise direction and the other said shoulder stop limits movement of said shaft in the clockwise direction.
6. A locking apparatus of claim 5 wherein the rotation of said handle is in the range of approximately 20 degrees and 60 degrees.
7. A locking apparatus of claim 1 wherein said locking apparatus is detachable from the cookware.